

Local Economy Will See Boost from Investment

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Washington, DC – Wednesday, Harry Teague announced that \$4.45 million in Recovery funding has been awarded for the reconstruction of a vital road leading to the Department of Energy's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

According to WIPP, the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) and WIPP received \$172 million to support cleanup activities across the country and improve facilities at WIPP and as of April 27, 2010, CBFO has also saved and/or created more than 500 jobs through economic Recovery Act funding.

"This project is another of example of how the economic Recovery Act is putting Americans back to work while supporting critical local projects that will boost our economy," Harry Teague said. "In this case, it is a twofold economic boost to the community – by helping WIPP continue safely meeting its mission and by creating jobs here in Carlsbad through a new road reconstruction project."

According to WIPP, the project will involve the reconstruction of approximately 3.75 miles of WIPP's South Access Road from New Mexico Highway 128 to the intersection with WIPP's North Access Road. Many employees of the WIPP site use the South Access Road on a daily basis while coming to and from work. Additionally, the stretch of road is used heavily by oilfield companies operating in the vicinity of WIPP. In recent years, the condition of the road has severely deteriorated, making this reconstruction project a top priority for the community.

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